

Remarks

Claims 23-32 are at issue. Claims 23-27 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Bartholomew (6,122,255) in view of Siegrist et al (6,914,899). Claims 28-32 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Moss et al (6,160,876) in view of Siegrist et al (6,914,899). Claims 28-32 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Moss et al (6,160,876) in view of Siegrist et al (6,914,899) and Latter et al (Pub. No. US2002/0041664 A1), and further in view of Madoch et al (US 6,741,693).


A Terminal Disclosure is enclosed

Siegrist et al (6,914,899) is not prior art and therefore cannot be used to reject the present application. The present application claims priority off of US patent 6,101,246 (see Double Patenting Rejection) which has a priority date (filing date) of September 16, 1998. Siegrist et al has a priority date (filing date) of January 30, 2001. Thus Siegrist is not prior art and all the art rejections must be withdrawn.

The application is now in condition for allowance. Prompt consideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By



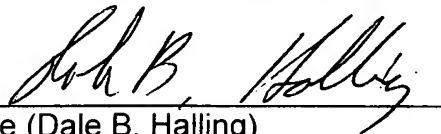
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I hereby certify that a Response is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on:

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Signature (Dale B. Halling)